

**The Solar System** ▪ *Review and Reinforce*

## The Outer Planets

### Understanding Main Ideas

*Answer the following question in the spaces provided.*

1. What are the five outer planets?

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2. Which planets are the gas giants?

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3. What are the two main differences between Pluto and the gas giants?

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4. Why doesn't the gas on a gas giant escape into space, as it has on Mercury?

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5. What object in the solar system has a composition similar to that of the gas giants? \_\_\_\_\_

6. What planet is by far the most massive of all the planets that revolve around the sun? \_\_\_\_\_

7. What are Saturn's rings made of? \_\_\_\_\_

8. How did astronomers know where to look to discover Neptune?

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9. Why do astronomers sometimes consider Pluto and its moon, Charon, to be a double planet?

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### Building Vocabulary

10. Define *gas giant*.

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11. What is a *ring*?

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